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INTERACTION OF INTERPLANETARY SHOCKS WITH NONUNIFORM AMBIENT SOLAR WIND

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ABSTRACT

Three interplanetary shock wave events are selected from the plasma and magnetic field data of Helios 1 and 2, IMP-8, and Voyager 1 and 2 for study of the interactions of a weak interplanetay shock with a nonuniform ambient solar wind. These events occurred during the periods November 22-26, 1977, January 1-7, 1978, and April 2-5, 1979, respectively. It is found that the shock surfaces of these events are highly distorted. In addition, a portion of the shock surface may be degenerated into a disturbance which does not satisfy the Rankine-Hugoniot jump conditions.